

(43) Date of publication of application : 08.05.2001

C08B 37/00

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SOLUTION: This sponge-like water-absorbent is characterized in that the absorbent comprises a crosslinked body of a galactomannan or a derivative thereof crosslinked with a three- or more-valent polyvalent metallic ion.

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]